Pregnant and using? Answering common questions

What if I am taking meds that my doctor prescribed to me?

- Inform your OBGYN and sign a release so that they can coordinate care with your primary physician.
- Bring the prescription meds to the hospital with you. The doctor will validate the prescription.
- Bring a "release of information" form from the prescribing doctor to the hospital.

What if I am taking illegal drugs?

- Reminder: Taking illegal drugs while pregnant can have a disastrous impact on the health of both you and your baby. Substances can cause miscarriages, low birth weight, premature labor, placental abruption, fetal death, and even maternal death
- Reach out today to get the help you need.

Will Children Services be notified and what happens?

In Ohio, it is mandatory to notify Children Services if:

the mother or baby tests positive for substances,

the baby has signs of withdrawal,

there are indications of abuse, or

the mother has a history of substance abuse.



A case may or may not be opened, depending on if the mother has a valid Plan of Safe Care.

A hospital social worker will talk with you to discuss the next steps.

If residential treatment is an option for you, there are treatment centers you can go to with your baby.

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Information gathered from:

Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome: MedlinePlus Medical Encyclopedia." MedlinePlus, U.S. National Library of Medicine, medlineplus.gov/ency/article/007313.htm

